

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 12581 211606Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 082047 /44
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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8671
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 12581

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS
TAGS: MASS CG BE FR US
SUBJECT: CONSULTATION ON ZAIRE MAP

REF: STATE 307920

1. WE INFORMED DIRECTOR GENRAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS (VANDEN BLOOCK)
OF U.S. DESIRES (REFTEL) RE CONSULTATION. ON PERSONAL BASIS HE
REPLIED AS FOLLOWS, PROMISING A FIRM GOB RESPONSE ASAP.

2. BELGIAN EXPERTS ON AFRICA ARE STILL CONCERNED THAT MOBUTU
MIGHT GET WIND OF THREE-POWER CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO HIS TRIP
TO EUROPE AND CONCLUDE WE WERE GANGING UP ON HIM. THUS THEY WOULD
BE JUST AS HAPPY TO HAVE THE CONSULTATIONS AFTER THE MOBUTU VISIT
TO BRUSSELS IN THRID WEEK OF JANUARY.

3. HOWEVER, VANDEN BLOOCK ADMITS MERIT OF U.S. PLSITION (PARA 3, REF-
TEL) AND THINS THAT A US-BELGIAN CONSULTATION IN VERY EARLY JANUARY -
AS EARLY AS JANUARY 4 AND, IN ANY CASE, DURING THE WEEK ENDING
JANUARY 8 - WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE. HE THINKS THE CONSULTATION COULD
BE ONE IN ONE DAY - TWO AT THE MOST.

4. COMMENT: WE EXPECT THAT BELGIAN GOVERNMENT WILL GO ALONG
WITH VANDEN BLOOCK'S POSTTION, BUT ONLY IF THERE WILL BE
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AT LEAST A WEEK'S INTERVAL BETWEEN U.S. CONSUTEES' DEPARTURE
AND MOBUTU'S ARRIVAL JANUARY 17.RENNER

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